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A/H  
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Date MARCH 12, 2002

Sig: Marjorie Scaria

Name: Marjorie Scaria



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Murray L. Finebaum et al.

Serial No.: 10/001,921

**COPY OF PAPERS  
ORIGINALLY FILED**

Filed: 11/15/01

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TRADING BONDS

Art Unit: 2131

Examiner: Unassigned

Docket No.: 1500/2

**RECEIVED**

**MAR 29 2002**

**Technology Center 2100**

Box NON-FEE Amendment  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In regard to the above-identified application, please enter the following preliminary amendment and remarks:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the specification as follows:

After the title, please insert the following new section heading:

-- STATEMENT OF RELATED APPLICATION --

Followed by the following paragraph:

--This application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/249,849 entitled "Method and Apparatus for Trading Bonds," filed November 17, 2000. --

**STATUS OF CLAIMS**

Claims 1-53 are pending.

**REMARKS**

This is a preliminary amendment before the first Office Action.

Claims 1-53 are pending in this application.

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.78(a)(5), the specification is amended to add the priority claim to prior provisional application 60/249,849.

Attached hereto is a marked up version of the change made to the specification by this preliminary amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made".

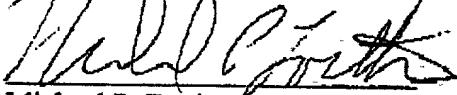
**CONCLUSION**

Applicant submits that this application is entitled to the benefit of priority under 35 USC 119(e) to the prior provisional application referred to above. Applicant further submits that Claims 1-53 are in condition for allowance, early notification of which is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner be of the view that an interview would expedite consideration of this Amendment or of the application at large, request is made that the Examiner telephone the Applicant's attorney at (703) 435-9390 in order that any outstanding issues be resolved.

**FEES**

If there are any fees due and owing in respect to this amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge such fees to deposit account number 50-1047.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Michael P. Fortkort  
Registration No. 35,141  
Attorney for Applicant

**Atty Docket: 1500/2**

**Version with markings to show changes made**

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

**STATEMENT OF RELATED APPLICATION:**

This application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/249,849 entitled "Method and Apparatus for Trading Bonds," filed November 17, 2000.